



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRINGFIELD TANNING SALON OWNER INDICTED FOR DISTRIBUTING METH

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the owner of a Springfield, Mo., tanning salon was indicted by a federal grand jury today for distributing methamphetamine.

Leah Renee Binney, 42, of Springfield, was charged in a five-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. **Binney** is the owner of A Touch of Sun tanning salon, 3761 N. State Highway H, Springfield.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Binney** possessed with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of methamphetamine on Dec. 16, 2003, in Greene County, Mo.

Counts Two, Three and Four allege three separate incidents in which **Binney** distributed methamphetamine during the summer of 2003 – on June 18, July 2 and August 7.

Count Five is a forfeiture count, which would require **Binney** to forfeit to the United States any property derived from the proceeds of the violations alleged in the indictment, including \$8,174.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly R. Weber Dean. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Springfield, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow